

MODERNISATION OF LEISURE OPTIONS

Budget Savings £429k

DESCRIPTION OF OPTION

Analysis of the current Leisure Centre swimming pool programmes at each site has identified a high staff to income ratio at certain periods. This is mainly due to the rigid health and safety recommendations for the operation of one/two swimming pools at the same time, even at quiet periods when usage is low.

Savings could be made by making the following changes to pool operating times and working practices; close Europa Leisure Pool during less busy times, close Guinea Gap Leisure Pool during less busy times, reduce staffing requirements for the sauna operation at Guinea Gap Leisure Centre, close the basket store facility at Woodchurch Leisure Centre and transfer use of dry side operation to the community, introduce self lifeguarding of swimming club times at all leisure facilities, reduced requirement of reception resources.

RATIONALE FOR SAVINGS

The changes proposed to operating times are when levels of use are low and staff costs are high.

IMPACT

The proposal will require changes to the activity programmes in Leisure Centres which will affect established user groups such as swimming clubs.

Although compulsory redundancies can not be ruled out, it is hoped to achieve the necessary staff reductions by means of EVR or redesign of current shift rotas and working practices.

Staff turn-over may increase because of the reductions in conditions of employment

MITIGATION

The proposed changes to operating times have been designed to have the least affect on the majority of users.